wheat to India under the U.S. Export Enhancement programme;

(b) if so, whether Government have taken a decision to import any wheat under the said programme;

(c) what would be the subsidised price of the wheat and its quality; and

(d) if a decision has not been taken; by when this is likely to be taken ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government has contracted for import of 9.85 lakh tonnes of wheat from U.S.A. at subsidised rates under the U.S. Government Export Enhancement Programme.

(c) Contracts have been signed for import of US Dark Northern Spring/Northern Spring and Hard Red Winter Wheat at FOB (Gulf) prices of US $ 110.50 PMT for November—December, 1992 shipment and US $ 112.50 PMT for January—March, 1993 shipment.

(d) Does not arise.

Import of Wheat

1866. SHRI BALBIR SINGH :
SHRI SOM PAL :
SHRI S. S. SURJEWALA :

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) what is the total quantity of wheat to be imported this year;

(b) how much of it has already been contracted and how much has already come into the country; and

(c) what are the names of the countries from whom imports have been made are proposed to be made together with the respective quantities ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI TARUN GOGOI) : (a) to (c) Contracts for import of 2.990 million tonnes of wheat have been signed during 1992-93. The required details are given below :—

Name of the country from where imported and Date of contract	Quantity contracted (in Lakh Mts)	Quantity unloaded upto 29-11-1992 (Qty. in Lakh Mts)
Canada (date 19-6-1992) . . .	10.05	6.79
Australia (date 25-8-1992) . . .	5.00	1.11
Australia (date 8-10-1992) . . .	5.00	—
USA (date 6-10-1992) . . .	9.85	—
Total	29.90	7.90

Criteria for Allocation of Food Vessels

@1867. SHRI MOHAMMED AMIN : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) what are the criteria for allocation of food vessels to different ports; and

(b) whether there is any complaint against the present system ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI TARUN GOGOI) : (a) Ministry of Surface Transport through its Chartering Wing, Charters the vessels for bringing in the imported cargo on behalf of Government of India. Once the vessels are fixed, FCI head-quarters, on receiving the fixtrue note which contains the details of vessel's Dimensions/Capacity discharge range etc., nominate the vessel to the best suitable ports at a particular point of time. The criteria of allocation depends upon the availability of berth at various ports and the suitability of vessel's dimension for operation and with the ultimate objective of having a quick turn around of the vessel.

(b) No, Sir.

@Previously Unstarred Question 1540, transferred from 2-12-92.